

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3628
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015
Problems in Foodgrain Management
Kataria Shri Rattan Lal

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several States have refused to lift wheat stored in the bufferstock owing to its poor quality, if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether this has led to excess stock and storage of buffer stock in the open, if so, the details of the buffer stock lying in the open, State-wise;
- (c) whether difficulty is being faced in timely transportation of foodgrains to their respective destination owing to transport problems, if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to tackle this problem; and
- (d) whether any rules have been formulated by the Food Corporation of India to regulate buffer stock of foodgrains in the country and if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

- (a): No Madam, no State Government has refused to lift wheat stocks owing to its poor quality during last three years.
- (b): No Madam, Availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool is dependent upon production and procurement of foodgrains besides off-take. The stock of foodgrains, surplus available over and above the Stocking Norms as on 01.07.2015 is as under:-

...2/-

...2...

(Figs. in lakh tons)
Wheat Rice Total
Stocking Norms for 1st July 275.80 135.40 411.20
Stock in Central Pool as on 01.07.2015 386.80 216.71 603.51
Excess stock 111.00 81.31 192.31

State-wise details of wheat stored in covered and plinth (CAP) storage is at Annex.

(c): Government plans movement of foodgrain from surplus regions to deficit regions every month in advance to meet the foodgrain requirement under various schemes and also to build up buffer stocks. The mode used for transportation of foodgrains is 90% by Rail. Sometimes problems like railway operational constraints, unforeseen circumstances due to law & order problems and natural calamities affect movement of foodgrains. However, with active cooperation and coordination amongst various stakeholders like Railways, continuous movement and induction of foodgrains to recipient regions is ensured.

(d): Govt. prescribe stocking norms for foodgrains in the Central Pool. The stock over and above the stocking norms is disposed off by the Govt. of India through adhoc additional allocations under PDS, sale under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) and export. A committee comprising of Secretaries of Department of F&PD, Department of Expenditure, Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Commerce has been constituted to make recommendations regarding quantity and price at which foodgrain stocks in central pool, over and above the stocking norms, are to be offloaded either through open sale in domestic market or through exports.
